

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method in a computer system for tracking and processing redemption of rebates from a plurality of vendors, the computer system maintaining a multi-vendor rebate list with rebate data for rebates associated with each of the vendors, comprising:

receiving a multi-vendor rebate list related message from a vendor; and
in response to the received message, dispensing information related to a portion of the multi-vendor-rebate-list, in response to a multi-vendor-rebate-list message relating to associated with a the vendor.

2. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 1, wherein ~~said~~the dispensing information related to ~~a the portion of the multi-vendor-rebate-list, in response to a multi-vendor-rebate-list message associated with a vendor~~ further ~~includes~~comprises:

transmitting data to inform a ~~manufacturer~~vendor of specific rebate data.

3. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 2, wherein ~~said~~the transmitting data to inform ~~a manufacturer the vendor~~ of specific rebate data ~~includes~~further comprises:

transmitting data to inform ~~the a~~ manufacturer of ~~at least one a~~ payment ~~due or~~ owed to at least one retailer, ~~where such~~the payment is-based, at least in part, on ~~a record having~~ at least one recorded rebate transaction.

4. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 2, wherein ~~said the~~ transmitting data to inform ~~a manufacturer~~the vendor of specific rebate data further ~~includes~~comprises:

transmitting data to inform ~~the a~~ manufacturer of ~~at least one a~~ payment ~~due or~~ owed to at least one retailer, ~~where such the~~ payment is based, at least in part, on ~~a record having~~ at least one recorded rebate transaction and a specified period of time.

5. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim 1~~claim 2, wherein ~~said the~~ transmitting data to inform the vendor of specific rebate data ~~dispensing information related to a~~ multi-vendor rebate list, ~~in response to a multi-vendor rebate list message associated with a~~ vendor further ~~includes~~comprises:

transmitting data to inform at least one of a manufacturer, a wholesaler, and a retailer of specific rebate data.

6. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 2-5, wherein ~~said the~~ transmitting data to inform ~~a retailer~~the vendor of specific rebate data further ~~includes~~comprises:

transmitting data to inform ~~the a~~ retailer of ~~at least one a~~ payment ~~due or~~ owed to the retailer, ~~where such the~~ payment is based, at least in part, on ~~a record having~~ at least one recorded rebate transaction.

7. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 2-5, wherein ~~said the~~ transmitting data to inform ~~a retailer~~the vendor of specific rebate data further ~~includes~~comprises:

transmitting data to inform ~~the a~~ retailer of ~~at least one a~~ payment ~~due or~~ owed to the retailer, ~~where such the~~ payment is based, at least in part, on ~~a record having~~ at least one recorded rebate transaction and a specified period of time.

8. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 1, wherein ~~said the~~ dispensing information related to ~~a the portion of the multi-vendor rebate list, in response to a~~ multi-vendor rebate list message associated with a vendor further ~~includes~~comprises:

recording a rebate transaction.

9. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 8, wherein ~~said~~the recording a ~~the~~ rebate transaction further ~~comprises~~includes:

adjusting a rebate vehicle volume-of-usage counter in response to a ~~the~~ message, associated with at least one rebate-related vendor, that a rebate vehicle has been scanned redeemed.

10. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 9, wherein the rebate vehicle comprises at least one of a coupon or and an in-store special.

11. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 1, wherein ~~said~~the dispensing information related to a ~~the portion of the multi-vendor-rebate-list, in response to a multi-vendor-rebate-list message associated with a vendor~~ further ~~comprises~~includes:

sending a response message that a rebate vehicle volume-of-usage counter has been adjusted in response to a message ~~from at least one rebate-related vendor~~ that a rebate vehicle has been redeemed scanned.

12. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 1, wherein ~~said~~the dispensing information related to a ~~the portion of the multi-vendor-rebate-list, in response to a multi-vendor-rebate-list message associated with a vendor~~ further ~~includes~~comprises:

sending a response message ~~—containing~~that contains at least one of part selected ~~from the group comprising a value of a rebate, and at least one limit on a quantity of a rebate—~~ in response to a message, ~~associated with at least one rebate-related vendor,~~ that a rebate vehicle has been redeemed scanned.

13. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 1, wherein the received multi-vendor rebate list related message is ~~dispensing information related to a multi-vendor-rebate list, in response to a multi-vendor-rebate list message associated with a vendor~~ further includes:

~~receiving a message, associated with a vendor, that at least one rebate vehicle associated with the vendor has been scanned~~redeemed.

14. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 13, wherein ~~said~~the receiving a ~~the~~ message, associated with a vendor, that at least one rebate vehicle has been scanned ~~redeemed~~ has been scanned further includescomprises:

~~checking~~determining from the message for an ~~indicia~~indication of origination of the rebate vehicle.

15. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 13, wherein ~~said~~the receiving ~~a~~ message, associated with a vendor, that at least one rebate vehicle has been scanned ~~redeemed~~ is further includes:

~~receiving a message associated with at least one scanner of the vendor.~~

16. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 15, wherein ~~said~~the receiving ~~a~~ the message associated with the at least one scanner of the vendor further includescomprises:

receiving the message via at least one central computer.

17. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 15, wherein ~~said~~the receiving ~~a~~ the message associated with the at least one scanner of the vendor further includescomprises:

receiving the message via at least one computer local to at least one of a retailer ~~or~~ and a manufacturer.

18. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 1, wherein ~~said~~the dispensing information related to a receiving the multi-vendor-rebate-list, ~~in response to a multi-vendor-rebate-list related message associated with a~~ from the vendor further comprises:

receiving a message inquiring as to monies owed.

19. (Currently amended) The method of Claimclaim 1; wherein ~~saidthe~~ dispensing information related to ~~a-receiving the multi-vendor-rebate-list, in response to a multi-vendor-rebate-list~~ related message associated with a from the vendor further ~~comprising~~comprises:

receiving a message associated with at least one of a retailer or and a manufacturer.

20. (Currently amended) The method of Claimclaim 1; wherein ~~saidthe~~ dispensing information related to ~~a-the portion of the multi-vendor-rebate-list, in response to a multi-vendor-rebate-list message associated with a vendor~~ further ~~includes~~comprises:

transmitting data to inform a vendor as to monies owed for ~~saidthe~~ dispensing information related to ~~a-the~~ multi-vendor-rebate-list.

21. (Currently amended) The method of Claimclaim 1, further comprising:
transmitting billing data to a vendor for ~~saidthe~~ dispensing information related to ~~a-the~~ multi-vendor-rebate-list.

22. (Currently amended) The method of Claimclaim 21; wherein ~~saidthe~~ transmitting billing data to the vendor for ~~saidthe~~ dispensing information ~~related to a multi-vendor-rebate-list~~ further comprises:

transmitting billing data having a fee ~~selected from a group comprising a fee based upon at least one of~~ answering an inquiry as to monies owed, ~~a fee based on a value of~~ rebate transactions, and ~~a fee based on a number of~~ rebate transactions.

23. (Currently amended) A system for tracking and redemption of rebates from a plurality of vendors, the system maintaining a multi-vendor rebate list with rebate data for rebates associated with each of the vendors, comprising:

means for receiving a multi-vendor rebate list related message from a vendor; and

means for dispensing information related to a-the multi-vendor-rebate-list, in response to a multi-vendor-rebate-list message associated with a vendor.

24. (Currently amended) The system of Claimclaim 23, wherein ~~saidthe~~ means for dispensing information related to a ~~the multi-vendor-rebate-list, in response to a multi-vendor-rebate-list message associated with a vendor~~ further includescomprises:

transmitting data to inform a ~~manufacturer~~ vendor of specific rebate data.

25. (Currently amended) The system of Claimclaim 24, wherein ~~saidthe~~ means for transmitting data to inform a ~~manufacturer~~ the vendor of specific rebate data includesfurther comprises:

means for transmitting data to inform ~~the~~ a manufacturer of ~~at least onea~~ payment due or owed to at least one retailer, ~~where suchthe~~ payment is based, at least in part, on ~~a record~~ having at least one recorded rebate transaction.

26. (Currently amended) The system of Claimclaim 24, wherein ~~saidthe~~ means for transmitting data to inform a ~~manufacturer~~ the vendor of specific rebate data further includescomprises:

means for transmitting data to inform ~~the~~ a manufacturer of ~~at least onea~~ payment due or owed to at least one retailer, ~~where suchthe~~ payment is based, at least in part, on ~~a record~~ having at least one recorded rebate transaction and a specified period of time.

27. (Currently amended) The system of Claimclaim 2423, wherein ~~saidthe~~ means for transmitting data to inform the vendor of specific rebate data ~~dispensing information related to a multi-vendor-rebate-list, in response to a multi-vendor-rebate-list message associated with a vendor~~ further includescomprises:

means for transmitting data to inform at least one of a manufacturer, a wholesaler, and a retailer of specific rebate data.

28. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 24-27, wherein ~~said the~~ means for transmitting data to inform a ~~retailer~~the vendor of specific rebate data further ~~includes~~comprises:

means for transmitting data to inform ~~the a~~a retailer of ~~at least one a~~a payment ~~due or~~ owed to the retailer, ~~where such the~~the payment is-based, at least in part, on a ~~record having~~record having at least one recorded rebate transaction.

29. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 24-27, wherein ~~said the~~ means for transmitting data to inform a ~~retailer~~the vendor of specific rebate data ~~means for~~ ~~informing a retailer of specific rebate data further~~includescomprises:

means for transmitting data to inform ~~the a~~a retailer of ~~at least one a~~a payment ~~due or~~ owed to the retailer, ~~where such the~~the payment is-based, at least in part, on a ~~record having~~record having at least one recorded rebate transaction and a specified period of time.

30. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 23, wherein ~~said the~~ means for dispensing information related to a ~~the~~multi-vendor-rebate-list, ~~in response to a~~ ~~multi-vendor-rebate-list message associated with a vendor further~~includescomprises:

means for recording a rebate transaction.

31. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 30, wherein ~~said the~~ means for recording a ~~the~~rebate transaction further ~~includes~~comprises:

means for adjusting a rebate vehicle volume-of-usage counter in response to a ~~the~~message, ~~associated with at least one rebate related vendor,~~ that a rebate vehicle has been ~~scanned~~redeemed.

32. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 31, wherein the rebate vehicle ~~comprises~~comprises at least one of a coupon ~~or and~~and an in-store special.

33. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 23, wherein ~~said the~~ means for dispensing information related to a ~~the multi-vendor-rebate-list, in response to a multi-vendor rebate list message associated with a vendor~~ further ~~includes~~comprises:

means for sending a response message that a rebate vehicle volume-of-usage counter has been adjusted in response to a message ~~from at least one rebate-related vendor~~ that a rebate vehicle has been ~~scanned~~redeemed.

34. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 23, wherein ~~said the~~ means for dispensing information related to a ~~the multi-vendor-rebate-list, in response to a multi-vendor rebate list message associated with a vendor~~ further ~~includes~~comprises:

means for sending a response message ~~—containing~~that contains at least one of ~~part selected from the group comprising~~ a value of a rebate, and at least one limit on a quantity of a rebate ~~—in response to a message, associated with at least one rebate-related vendor~~ that a rebate vehicle has been ~~scanned~~redeemed.

35. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 23, wherein ~~said the~~ means ~~for dispensing information related to a multi-vendor rebate list, in response to a multi-vendor rebate list message associated with a vendor~~ received multi-vendor rebate list related message further ~~includes~~:

~~means for receiving a message, associated with a vendor,~~is that at least one rebate vehicle has been ~~scanned~~redeemed.

36. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 35, wherein ~~said the~~ means for receiving a ~~the~~ message, ~~associated with a vendor,~~ that at least one rebate vehicle has been ~~scanned~~redeemed ~~has been scanned~~ further ~~includes~~comprises:

means for ~~checking~~determining from the message for an indicia ~~indication of~~ origination of the rebate vehicle.

37. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 35; wherein ~~said the~~
~~means for receiving~~received a message, ~~associated with a vendor~~, that at least one rebate vehicle
has been ~~scanned~~redeemed ~~is further includes~~:

~~means for receiving a message~~ associated with at least one scanner of the vendor.

38. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 37; wherein ~~said the~~
~~means for receiving a~~the message associated with the at least one scanner of the vendor further
~~includes~~comprises:

means for receiving the message via at least one central computer.

39. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 37; wherein ~~said the~~
~~means for receiving a~~the message associated with the at least one scanner of the vendor further
~~includes~~comprises:

means for receiving the message via at least one computer local to at least one of
a retailer ~~or and~~ a manufacturer.

40. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 23; wherein ~~said the~~
~~means for dispensing information related to~~receiving the multi-vendor-rebate-list related, ~~in~~
~~response to a multi-vendor-rebate-list message associated with~~from the vendor further
~~comprises~~:

means for receiving a message inquiring as to monies owed.

41. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 23; wherein ~~said the~~
~~means for dispensing information related to~~receiving the multi-vendor-rebate-list related, ~~in~~
~~response to a multi-vendor-rebate-list message associated with~~from the vendor further
~~comprising~~comprises:

means for receiving a message associated with at least one of a retailer ~~or and~~ a
manufacturer.

42. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 23, wherein ~~said~~the means for dispensing information related to ~~a~~the multi-vendor-rebate-list, ~~in response to a multi-vendor-rebate-list message associated with a vendor~~ further ~~includes~~comprises:

means for transmitting data to inform a vendor as to monies owed for ~~said~~the dispensing information related to ~~a~~the multi-vendor-rebate-list.

43. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 23, further comprising:
means for transmitting billing data to a vendor for ~~said~~the dispensing information related to ~~a~~the multi-vendor-rebate-list.

44. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 43, wherein ~~said~~the means for transmitting billing data to the vendor for ~~said~~the dispensing information ~~related to a multi-vendor-rebate-list~~ further comprises:

means for transmitting billing data having a fee ~~selected from a group comprising a fee-based upon at least one of~~ answering an inquiry as to monies owed, ~~a fee-based on a value of rebate transactions, and a fee-based on a number of rebate transactions.~~

45. (Currently amended) A method in a computer system for tracking and processing redemption of rebates from a plurality of vendors, the computer system maintaining a multi-vendor rebate list with rebate data for rebates associated with each of the vendors, comprising:

displaying information in response to receiving a multi-vendor-rebate-list vendor identifier.

46. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 45, wherein the vendor identifier ~~further includes~~:

~~the vendor identifier selected from the vendor identifier list comprising~~ at least one of a user identifier, a password, a cookie, and an encrypted symbol.

47. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 45, wherein ~~said~~the displaying information ~~in response to a multi-vendor rebate list vendor identifier further includes~~comprises:

displaying ~~manufacturer~~vendor-specific rebate data.

48. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 47, wherein ~~said~~the displaying ~~manufacturer~~vendor-specific rebate data further ~~includes~~comprises:

displaying ~~at least one~~a payment ~~due or owed~~ to at least one retailer.

49. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 48, wherein ~~said~~the displaying ~~at least one the~~the payment ~~due or owed to at least one retailer further includes~~comprises:

displaying ~~at least one the~~the payment ~~due or owed to the~~ at least one retailer in conjunction with at least one recorded rebate transaction.

50. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 48, wherein ~~said~~the displaying ~~at least one the~~the payment ~~due or owed to at least one retailer further includes~~comprises:

displaying ~~at least one the~~the payment ~~due or owed to the~~ at least one retailer in conjunction with at least one recorded rebate transaction and a specified period of time.

51. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 48, wherein ~~said~~the displaying ~~at least one the~~the payment ~~due or owed to at least one retailer further includes~~comprises:

displaying information regarding at least one of a coupon or and an in-store special transaction.

52. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 4745, wherein ~~said~~the displaying information vendor-specific rebate data ~~in response to a multi-vendor rebate list vendor identifier includes~~further comprises:

displaying at least one of manufacturer-specific, wholesaler-specific, and retailer-specific rebate data.

53-56. (Canceled)

57. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 45, wherein ~~said the~~ displaying information ~~in response to a multi-vendor-rebate-list vendor identifier~~ further comprises:

displaying a message as to monies owed.

58. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 45, wherein ~~said the~~ ~~dispensing displaying~~ information ~~related to a multi-vendor-rebate-list, in response to a multi-vendor-rebate-list message associated with a vendor~~ further comprising comprises:

displaying in near real-time information ~~receiving a message~~ associated with one of a retailer ~~or~~ and a manufacturer that is identified by the received vendor identifier.

59. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 45, further comprising: displaying billing data to a vendor related to dispensing information related to a the multi-vendor-rebate-list.

60. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 59, wherein ~~said the~~ displaying billing data ~~related to dispensing information related to a multi-vendor-rebate-list~~ further comprises:

displaying billing data ~~having a fee selected from a group comprising a fee-based upon at least one of~~ answering an inquiry as to monies owed, ~~a fee-based on~~ a value of rebate transactions, and ~~a fee-based on~~ a number of rebate transactions.

61. (Currently amended) A ~~System~~ system for tracking and redemption of rebates from a plurality of vendors, comprising:

a multi-vendor rebate list having rebate data for rebates associated with each of the vendors;

means for displaying information in response to receiving a multi-vendor-rebate-list vendor identifier.

62. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 61, wherein the vendor identifier ~~further includes~~:

~~the vendor identifier selected from the vendor identifier list comprising~~ is at least one of a user identifier, a password, a cookie, and an encrypted symbol.

63. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 61, wherein ~~said~~the ~~means for displaying information in response to a multi-vendor rebate list vendor identifier further includes~~comprises:

means for displaying ~~manufacturer~~vendor-specific rebate data.

64. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 63, wherein ~~said~~the means for displaying ~~manufacturer~~vendor-specific rebate data further ~~includes~~comprises:

means for displaying ~~at least one~~a payment ~~due or owed~~ to at least one retailer.

65. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 64, wherein ~~said~~the means for displaying ~~at least one~~the payment ~~due or owed to at least one retailer further includes~~comprises:

means for displaying ~~at least one~~the payment ~~due or owed to the~~ at least one retailer in conjunction with at least one recorded rebate transaction.

66. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 64, wherein ~~said~~the means for displaying ~~at least one~~the payment ~~due or owed to at least one retailer further includes~~comprises:

means for displaying ~~at least one~~the payment ~~due or owed to the~~ at least one retailer in conjunction with at least one recorded rebate transaction and a specified period of time.

67. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 64, wherein ~~said the~~ means for displaying ~~at least one the~~ payment due or owed to ~~at least one retailer~~ further ~~includes~~comprises:

means for displaying information regarding at least one of a coupon or and an in-store special transaction.

68. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim ~~6361~~, wherein ~~said the~~ means for displaying information the vendor-specific rebate data in response to a multi-vendor-rebate list vendor identifier further ~~includes~~comprises:

means for displaying at least one of manufacturer-specific, wholesaler-specific, and retailer-specific rebate data.

69-72. (Canceled)

73. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 61, wherein ~~said the~~ means for displaying information ~~in response to a multi-vendor-rebate list vendor identifier~~ further comprises:

means for displaying a message as to monies owed.

74. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 61, wherein ~~said the~~ means for ~~dispensing displaying~~ information ~~related to a multi-vendor-rebate list, in response to a multi-vendor-rebate list message associated with a vendor further comprising~~comprises:

means for displaying in near real-time information ~~receiving a message associated with one of a retailer or and a manufacturer that is identified by the received vendor identifier.~~

75. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 61, further comprising:
means for displaying billing data to a vendor related to dispensing information related to a the multi-vendor-rebate-list.

76. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 75, wherein ~~said the~~ means for displaying billing data related to ~~dispensing information related to a multi-vendor rebate list~~ further comprises:

means for displaying billing data ~~having a fee selected from a group comprising a fee-based upon at least one of~~ answering an inquiry as to monies owed, ~~a fee-based on a value of~~ rebate transactions, and ~~a fee-based on a number of~~ rebate transactions.

77. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the dispensing information further comprises:

dispensing information related to the portion of the multi-vendor rebate list in near real-time.

78. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving a multi-vendor rebate list related message from the vendor, further comprises:

receiving a message that a rebate vehicle has been redeemed by scanning.

79. (New) The method of claim 78 wherein the rebate vehicle is at least one of a coupon and an in-store discount.

80. (New) The system of claim 23 wherein the means for dispensing information further comprises:

means for dispensing information related to the portion of the multi-vendor rebate list in near real-time.

81. (New) The system of claim 23 wherein the means for receiving a multi-vendor rebate list related message from the vendor, further comprises:

means for receiving a message that a rebate vehicle has been redeemed using a scanner.

fb 82. (New) The system of claim 81 wherein the rebate vehicle is at least one of
a coupon and an in-store discount.
